

Applicant Name	Lewis and Clark County
Project Name	Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds/Dunbar Area Water Improvements

Project Abstract

The Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds/Dunbar Area Infrastructure Study (2004) was undertaken to analyze the existing infrastructure and define potential solutions that will address the growing concern for aging and inadequate water and wastewater systems. This study presented a plan for water and wastewater improvements in the area that includes the Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds, the Woodlawn Park Addition, and the Associated General Contractors (AGC) Training Facility. A number of problems have been identified including failing septic systems, inadequate fire flows, and unacceptable nitrate levels in water wells. Construction of wastewater improvements to the area (Phase 1 of the project) is under way. Funding for this phase is through the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) and State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG), State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans, fairgrounds mill levy, a rural improvement district formed in the Woodlawn Park Addition, and through private funds.

The Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds/Dunbar Area Water System Upgrade Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) updates the water improvements portion (Phase 2 of the project) of the infrastructure study.

The following conclusions were drawn in the PER:

- Wells in the Woodlawn Park Addition and the AGC Training Facility are at risk for contamination. Failing septic systems are one of several contributing factors;
- The fairgrounds water system does not provide adequate fire flows for protection of the facility;
- Lack of a central water system within the Woodlawn area and AGC property reduces the firefighting capabilities of local fire departments;
- Growth potential for Woodlawn Park Addition, the AGC Training Facility, and the fairgrounds are all limited in their potential for growth due to their current water infrastructure; and
- Proximity of the study area to the City of Helena water system makes improvements to the infrastructure relatively simple and cost effective.

Proposed improvements would provide improved water quality and quantity and would allow for future economic growth of the Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds/Dunbar area.